Laprosy has increased manifold in Bihar in the recent past;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what action Government have taken to provide medical help to stop spreading of Kala Azar and Leprosy in Bihar ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D. K. THARA DEVI SIDDHARTHA): (a) and (b) The number of patients suffering from Kala-azar has increased considerably in Bihar in recent years as per reports received from the State Government of Bihar as under:—

Year	Number of cases
1989	30,903
1990	54,650
1991 (Prov.)	59,292
1992 (upto February Prov.)	4,341

There has been no increase in the number of patients suffering from Leprosy.

(c) The following specific assistance is being provided to the Government of Bihar for the control of Kala-azar:—

(i) Supply of required quantity of DDT.

(ii) Adequate supply of Pentamidine Isothionatse used for treatment of resistant cases.

(ii) Reimbursement of the cost of Sodium Stibo Gluconate to the State Government of Bihar.

During 1991-92 a total assistance of Rs. 1602.27 lakhs (Cash Grant Rs. 102.27 lakhs and Commodity Grant Rs. 1500.00 lakhs) has been provided to the Government of Bihar for control of Kala-azar.

LEPROSY—National Leprosy Control Programme is being implemented as a 100% Centrally Sponsored Programme. Under the programme, treatment of Leprosy cases with combination of drugs is being extended to leprosy cases district by district in a phased manner. A special health education campaign has been mounted and steps have been initiated to provide adequate medical and physical re-habilitation of leprosy patients.

Steps for Preventing Mouth Cancer

204. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the habit of chewing tobacco in Paan and Khaini is responsible for the alarming rise of mouth cancer in the country;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to put a ban on the manufacture and sale of Tobacco for chewing purposes in the country;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) what steps are being taken to prevent cases of mouth cancer in the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D. K. THARA DEVI SIDDHARTHA): (a) The use of tobacco especially chewing is the most important cause of oral cancer. However the data collected under National Cancer Registry Programme of the Indian Council of Medical Research, New Delhi do not indicate any increase in the incident of oral cancer over the year.

(b) to (d) There is no proposal under consideration to put a ban on the manufacture and sale of tobacco for chewing purposes in the country. However, during the 8th Five Year Plan more emphasis is being given on prevention and early detection of cancer including oral cancer. Under the National Cancer Control Programme various health education measures are being taken to educate the people to create awareness amongest them about the likely couses of cancer. The ill effects of Tabocco chewing and smoking are suitable highlighted.

Grievances of Employees of I.C.M.R.

205. SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the grievances raised by the employees of ICMR as reported in the Indian Express of 10th April, 1992; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D. K. THARA DEVI SIDDHARTHA): (a) Yes, Sir

(b) The Association of the Employees of indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) has called off the strike since 23-4-1992 having been informed of the action being taken to redress their grievances.

दिल्ली में मलेरिया होने संबंधी मामले

206. श्री शंकर दयाल सिंह : क्या स्वास्थ्य और परिवार कल्याण मंत्री यह यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) हाल ही में दिल्ली में मलेरिया के प्रकोप में वृद्धि हुई है; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो इसके क्या कारण है और सरकार इसकी रोकथाम के लिये क्या कार्यवाही कर रही है ?

स्वास्थ्य और परिवार कल्याण मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती डी. के. तारा देवी सिद्धार्थ) : (क) जी, नहीं ।

(ख) यह प्रश्न नहीं उठता । तथापि दिल्ली में मलेरिया की रोकथाम करने के लिये निम्नलिखित उपचारी कदम उठाए जा रहे हैं;

1. रोगों का तत्काल निदान और उपचार ।
2. रसायनों और जैव-पर्यावरणिक पद्धतियों के माध्यम से मच्छरों के प्रकोप को रोकने के लिये प्रति सप्ताह लार्वा-रोधी कार्यकलाप ।
3. ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में कीटनाशी दवाओं का छिड़काव ।

Research Facilities in AIIMS

207. SHRI P. UPENDRA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ail india Institute of Medical Sciences in Delhi and other places have been set up as referral hospitals

(b) whether it is a.fact that these Institutions have virtually been converted into general hospitals; ad

(c) if so, what steps Government are taking to upgrade the medical facilities in the Institutes, to provide more research facilities and restore the' briginal character of the Institutes?